

to apply and dispose of Money for the proper Purposes on such Emergency, that Reason can be of little Weight, and it would be much more reasonable to object to Persons entrusted with the management and disposal of Money for Arms and Ammunition, that they purchased such Arms and Ammunition so long before any immediate Emergency required, that such Arms and Ammunition were spoiled, than that they faithfully kept that Money in Bank, in order to lay it out when the sudden Circumstances of the Province absolutely required it, and a greater Use and Benefit might arise therefrom to the Province.

The next Thing you mention is a Sum of £.2500 Sterling unaccounted for in any Manner: This carries the appearance of so heinous a Charge not only against the Governor, but Ourselves, that we are obliged to call upon you in the most Publick Manner to particularize the Treasurers Accounts upon which such a Deficiency arises, and when it happened; as for our Parts, we are so far from being conscious of any such Misapplication or Fraud in the Disposal of the Publick Money committed to our Trust, that we are not unwilling or afraid to have our Conduct examined in the strictest Manner; and therefore with Justice we expect you will set this Matter in a proper Light: It is very true, there were formerly Insinuations of some Misapplications to have been made of the Money on this Fund above 18 Years ago, but it is equally true, that former Assemblies were, upon enquiry, very well satisfied in their Doubts on this Head, and of this Truth some of the Members now in your House (if we are not very much misinformed) can give undoubted Testimony; and further, the Accounts relating to this Fund were always from Time to Time laid before and passed the Examination and Approbation of both Houses.

As to the £.2200 suggested by you to be possessed by his Lordship without any Law to Levy the same, we can with the greatest Truth assure you, we neither know or believe any such Thing, or that any Money intended to Supply the Magazine with Arms and Ammunition has been withheld from such Uses and Purposes by his Lordship.

We must acknowledge ourselves very much misinformed and mistaken, if the Act concerning Ordinaries is not greatly desired or thought proper for the Ease and Happiness of the Province; the Observation you make of it being much complained of, reaches very frequently the best Laws, and the most desirable frequently have not their designed Effect by an ill Execution of them, but surely that can be no Objection to the Law; it may be a very good Reason for the Legislators to make such further Provision as may be necessary and more effectual for the due Execution of it, tho' not to lay the Law entirely aside.